



News Release

Date: May 23, 2008

Contacts: Melissa Irons, Joseph Irons
Irons Brothers Construction, Inc.
206-306-7767, www.ironsbcc.com

Team PROS Builds a Shoreline Neighbor a Wheel Chair Ramp

This year's 15th Annual Rampathon was held this past Saturday, May 17, 2008 throughout King and Snohomish Counties. The Rampathon event is sponsored by the Master Builder's Association (MBA) Care Foundation and involves over a year of planning. What makes this annual event so successful is the active involvement of the Rampathon committee which is made up of volunteer MBA members. Joseph Irons, owner of Irons Brothers Construction, Inc. served as the committee's co-chairman for the second year in a row.

Irons Brothers Construction, Inc. based in Shoreline, WA provides design/build remodeling services for the greater Seattle area. The company specializes in middle to high-end kitchen and bathroom design/remodels with an emphasis on fine carpentry and tile work. For the third year in a row, the company owner, staff, colleagues, friends, and family, donated their expertise, time, and labor to build a ramp for a Shoreline family in need.

This year's Rampathon recipient for Irons Brothers Construction was Arlie Windsor. Arlie has Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and her health status has progressed to the point where she must use a wheel chair and/or scooter at all times. There are steps up to her front door and at her back door which make it a safety hazard for her to enter/exit the home without at least 4 people to lift her over this barrier. She has only left her home a handful of times this year due to these circumstances.

Arlie Windsor's daughter, Elizabeth and husband, Rich applied for the ramp after hearing one of the radio commercials about the event. Joseph Irons, Ramp captain, completed a site visit and decided that he and his staff would volunteer to take on the challenge of designing and building the Windsor's ramp. At the visit Joseph saw Arlie's need for the ramp and was committed to building her one. He also was impressed with her family's willingness to sacrifice whatever landscaping and yard was needed in order for Arlie to enter and exit their home safely.

Joseph's main concern when selecting a ramp this year was that his wife, Melissa was pregnant and expecting their first child on May 2, 2008, just weeks before the Rampathon event. But, with the help of one of his highly skilled carpenter's Chris Hjorten, Joseph was reassured that whether or not he would be present, the ramp would be built according to Joseph's designs/plans with the team of volunteers he put together.

Since the ramp has been built Arlie has already enjoyed using its access going outdoors in her electric scooter. Arlie, Rich, and Elizabeth, used the ramp the following day, May 18th to venture out of the house and down their residential street to the Interurban Trail in Shoreline. They enjoyed taking the trail as a family to the local shopping center. As Arlie told Joseph, this is the first time in about 6 months that she has received a good dose of “Vitamin D.” Now that Arlie has an access way out of her home there is no stopping her and she will be enjoying her freedom and movement which the rest of us generally take for granted.

The Windsor’s ramp was one of 30 ramps the Master Builders Association Ramp Captains constructed for deserving disabled residents. By enlisting the aid of over 500 volunteer builders, suppliers, designers, and remodelers, such as Irons Brothers Construction, the MBA Care Foundation was able to construct these ramps in one day for disabled families in need within King and Snohomish counties. There have been over 250 ramps built since Rampathon started 15 years ago.

Irons Brothers Construction, Inc. would like to thank the following local companies for their donation of labor, equipment, and materials for the construction of Arlie Windsor’s ramp during the 2008 Rampathon: Dunn Lumber, Plywood Supply, Aurora Rents, and Rodda Paints.

Volunteer staff, friends, and family pictured include: Joseph Irons, Melissa Irons, Scarlet Haney, Jake Arnesen, Rhett Irons, Chris Hjorten, Henry Morris, Bruce Irons, Arne Strand, Elizabeth Strand, Chris Hensley, Andrew Arce, Brandie Steinman, Emily Dick, Jennifer Johnson, Mark Stoddard, Rojan Heartsong, Abby Horn, Jeff Williams, and Herco Ordoná.

Pictures include: The Rampathon recipient Arlie Windsor

Pictures courtesy of: Irons Brothers Construction, Inc & Scott Chytil Photography, copyright © 2008

Media Contact: Joseph Irons, CGR, GMB, CAPS